

AC-464

41/8/1

COUNTY OF PEEBLES

AND BURGHS OF

PEEBLES AND INNERLEITHEN

PUBLIC HEALTH REPORT

BY

THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the Year 1946

COUNTY OF PEEBLES

AND BURGHS OF

PEEBLES AND INNERLEITHEN

PUBLIC HEALTH REPORT

BY

THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the Year 1946

GEO. STEWART & CO. LTD.
PRINTERS, EDINBURGH

CONTENTS

	PAGE.
Preface	5
Vital Statistics	8
Medical Services—	
Maternity and Child Welfare—	
Births	10
Infantile Mortality	10
Maternal Mortality	10
Home Visitation	11
Ante and Post-Natal Clinics	11
Child Welfare Clinics	11
Special Treatment Centres	11
Mother and Baby Homes	13
Residential Nurseries and Children's Homes	13
Home and Domestic Helps	13
Maternity Services Scheme	13
Supply of Food and Milk	13
Supply of Vitamins	13
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	14
Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia	14
Supervisor of Midwives	14
School Children	14
Infectious Diseases—	
Notifications	14
Diphtheria Immunisation	15
Tuberculosis—	
Notifications	15
Deaths	17
Treatment	17
Allowances	18
Venereal Disease	18
Supply of Insulin	19
Cancer	19
Mental Health Service	19
Nursing of Sick Poor	20

CONTENTS (*contd.*)

	PAGE.
Hospitals—	
General	20
Infectious Disease	20
Chronic Sick	20
Sanatoria	21
Maternity	21
Children	21
Convalescent Homes	21
Nursing Homes	21
Ambulance Facilities	21
Health Education	21
Food Supply—	
Milk	21
Meat and Other Foods	23
Food Poisoning	24
Nutrition	24
General Sanitation—	
Water	24
Drainage and Rivers Pollution	24
Factories Act 1937	24
Housing	24

PREFACE

General.

Since the passing of the Local Government (Scotland) Act, 1929 and the transfer of many functions from Small Burghs to the County Council, there has been an increasing lack of knowledge on the part of Town Councils of the work which is being done on their behalf by the County Council, and although the Town Councils have their Representatives on the various County Committees, there has inevitably been, as a result, a lessening of their feeling of responsibility. In view of the importance of the transferred functions to the community, and the benefit which local knowledge can always bring in estimating the needs of the people, details, where these vary for the small burghs, have been given wherever possible, in the present report.

Vital Statistics.

The birth rate which reached the highest level for some years in 1945, remained at the same level in 1946. It will be noted, however, that it is still low in comparison with the figure for Scotland as a whole, namely 16.8 per 1,000 as against 20.3. The general death rate is higher than the Scottish figure. Both these results derive from the fact that there is a greater proportion of elderly people in the Peeblesshire population than in that for the country generally. The fact that 68 per cent. of the deaths during the year resulted from cancer or diseases of the heart and circulation is also related to this.

Maternity and Child Welfare.

Wherever possible, the practitioners in the County prefer confinements to take place in hospital. This accounts for the fact that almost 75 per cent. of the confinements were so conducted. These take place in the conveniently situated nursing home in Peebles and the women are attended by their own doctors.

In last year's Report mention was made of the improvement in the attendances at the Child Welfare Clinics at Peebles and Innerleithen. With a regular fortnightly visit by a member of the Public Health Department medical staff, 1946 has seen a further advance. In Peebles, while in 1945, 92 children made 594 attendances, in 1946, 141 children made 866 attendances.

In Innerleithen the number of children increased from 88 in 1945 to 130 in 1946, and the number of visits from 506 to 703. This is very encouraging, but still further improvement is expected in Peebles.

Unfortunately, Peeblesshire mothers have still to be convinced of the benefits of dental inspection for young children. Much more propaganda is needed here and it is hoped to make the service more widely used during the current year.

Infectious Disease.

Apart from a sharp outbreak of scarlet fever among school children in Peebles Burgh in the autumn, the County remained very free from infectious disease. There were only 3 cases of confirmed diphtheria during the year, apart from 4 further cases at Broomlee Camp arising from the outbreak of diphtheria there in December 1945. The immunisation scheme is therefore proving most successful. The alteration in use of the County Hospital from infectious disease to chronic sick cases should ensure that much fuller use is made of it once adequate staff can be obtained to admit of all the beds being utilised.

Tuberculosis.

Tuberculosis incidence remained high particularly in Peebles Burgh, and the problem of finding adequate sanatorium accommodation became steadily more difficult. While the increased facilities at Drumshoreland Hospital helped greatly, there was still a constant waiting list for admission. Meantime all that can be done is to give such cases the highest priority in allocation of new houses when the present conditions are unsatisfactory. In this way the patients general strength may be built up and spread of infection to other members of the household prevented.

Venereal Disease.

This year has shown a slight increase in incidence, no doubt due to the discharge and return to civil life of service personnel.

Nursing of Sick Poor.

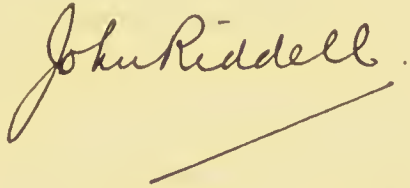
As mentioned previously, the County Hospital is now available for the care of those cases and this is proving of great benefit. Owing to shortage of nursing staff it was not possible to make full use of the facilities during 1946.

Milk Supply.

This has continued to have close attention and the number of producers with consistently good samples has again increased, the figures being : 1944, 15; 1945, 24; 1946, 31. The increased proportion of tuberculin tested producers is also most encouraging. It was agreed during the year that the supervision of dairy shops in the Burghs of Peebles and Innerleithen should be transferred to the County Council as from the beginning of 1947.

Environmental Services.

Detailed information regarding these is given in the Reports of the respective Sanitary Inspectors.



Medical Officer of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
10 DRUMSHEUGH GARDENS,
EDINBURGH, 3.
7th June 1947.

COUNTY OF PEEBLES.

VITAL STATISTICS, YEAR 1946.

	Peebles County.	Inner- leithen Burgh.	Peebles Burgh.	Land- ward Area.
Population, Census 1931 . . .	15,051	2,359	5,853	6,839
Population estimated 1946 . . .	14,409	Not available.		
Number of Live Births (corrected)	247	47	97	103
Illegitimate Births	22	5	8	9
Still Births	9	1	4	4
Number of Deaths	207	38	87	82
Marriages Registered	124	21	69	34

BIRTH AND DEATH RATES FOR COUNTY

(Landward and Burghal) per 1,000 of Population.

	1946.	1945.	Scotland.
Birth Rate (corrected)	16.8	16.8	20.3
Death Rate All Causes (corrected)	14.4	14.3	13.1
Death Rate Tuberculosis (corrected)35	.21	.79
Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 births	32.0	29.0	54.0

Ages at Death.

Number of Deaths in the various age groups during 1946.

	Peebles County.	Innerleithen Burgh.	Peebles Burgh.	Landward Area.
Under 1	8	1	5	2
1—4	4	—	1	3
5—9	—	—	—	—
10—14	1	—	—	1
15—24	2	—	2	—
25—34	1	—	1	—
35—44	9	1	4	4
45—54	11	3	4	4
55—64	20	5	9	6
65—74	68	17	24	27
75—84	66	10	28	28
85 and over	17	1	9	7
All Ages	207	38	87	82

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Peebles County.	Inner- leithen Burgh.	Peebles Burgh.	Land- ward Area.
Typhoid Fever (including Paratyphoid)	—	—	—	—
Cerebro Spinal Fever	1	—	—	1
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	3	—	2	1
Other forms of Tuberculosis	2	1	1	—
Syphilis	—	—	—	—
Influenza	2	—	2	—
Measles	—	—	—	—
Other infectious or parasitic disease	2	—	2	—
Cancer, malignant tumours	32	9	12	11
Tumours, non-malignant or not defined	—	—	—	—
Acute Rheumatism	—	—	—	—
Diabetes mellitus	4	2	1	1
Other General Diseases	1	—	1	—
Meningitis, Diseases of Spinal Cord	—	—	—	—
Cerebral Hæmorrhage, etc.	25	5	9	11
Other Diseases of Nervous System	1	—	—	1
Heart Disease	78	10	39	29
Other Circulatory Diseases	5	—	2	3
Bronchitis	3	2	1	—
Pneumonia	6	—	3	3
Other respiratory Diseases	2	1	—	1
Gastric and Duodenal Ulcer	—	—	—	—
Diarrhœa (all ages)	3	—	2	1
Appendicitis	1	—	—	1
Cirrhosis of Liver	2	—	1	1
Other Diseases of Liver	—	—	—	—
Other Digestive Diseases	1	—	—	1
Nephritis, Acute or Chronic	4	1	1	2
Other Diseases of Genito-urinary System	3	1	1	1
Puerperal Sepsis	—	—	—	—
Other Puerperal Causes	—	—	—	—
Disease of Skin and Organs of Movement	—	—	—	—
Congen. Debil. Prem. Birth, Malformation, etc.	3	—	3	—
Old Age	3	—	—	3
Suicide	—	—	—	—
Road Transport Accidents	3	1	1	1
Other Violence	5	—	2	3
Causes ill-defined or unknown	12	5	1	6
All Ages	207	38	87	82

A. MEDICAL SERVICES.

I. Maternity and Child Welfare.

Births.

(a) Total number of births (live plus still) occurring in the area during the year	235
(b) Number of births in (a) classified according to nature of attendance at confinement :—	
(i.) Maternity Services Scheme Cases—	
(a) With doctor	35
(b) Without doctor	9
(ii.) Other domiciliary Cases—	
(a) With doctor	20
(b) With midwife alone (no doctor booked)	—
(c) Conducted by outdoor staff of institution	—
(d) Without doctor or midwife	—
(iii.) Institutional Cases (including those in private maternity and nursing homes)	171

No private midwives practised in the County during the year.

Infantile Mortality.

Deaths classified according to age groups.

	Under 1 week.	1 to 4 weeks.	1 to 3 months.	3 to 6 months.	6 to 12 months.	Total.
Chronic Bronchitis	—	—	—	1	—	1
Broncho-pneumonia	—	—	1	—	—	1
Prematurity	1	—	—	—	—	1
Lobar Pneumonia	—	—	1	—	—	1
Gastro-enteritis	—	—	1	1	—	2
Congenital Malformation	—	—	2	—	—	2
Total	1	—	5	2	—	8

None of these children were born under the Maternity Services Scheme.

Maternal Mortality.

(a) Deaths from Puerperal Fever	—
(b) Deaths from other Puerperal Causes	—

Home Visitation.

	Number of Cases.	Total Visits.
Expectant Mothers	33	252
Infants	383	2,080
Children 1 to 5 years	683	2,047

Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Clinics.

No such Clinics are held in the County.

Child Welfare Clinics.

(A) The following Clinics were provided by the Local Authority.

PEEBLES.—This Clinic is held in the County Buildings on Tuesdays from 2.30 p.m. to 4 p.m.

INNERLEITHEN.—This Clinic is held in the Reading Room of the Liberal Club on every alternate Wednesday, 2.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.

	Peebles.	Innrleithen.
Openings during year	52	26
Average number in attendance per clinic	17	27
(a) Number of children attending—		
1. Under one year	70	64
2. Over one year	71	66
(b) Total number of attendances of children—		
1. Under one year	436	443
2. Over one year	430	260

(B) No Clinics were provided by Voluntary Bodies.

Special Treatment Centres.

No mothers were given treatment during the year.

(1) Teeth.

REPORT BY MR R. P. NEILSON, L.D.S.

This is the second full year during which the County Dental Inspection and Treatment Service has been available for pre-school children. The children are referred to the dental staff by the Health Visitors who are always present at the pre-school clinics when the children undergo treatment. The Health Visitors inspire both children and parents with confidence for they are well known to them, thus creating a good atmosphere for all parties concerned. The introduction of the pre-school child to the County Dental Scheme is thus simplified and as a result, it is hoped that parents will in the future accept regular dental treatment for their children throughout school life.

The demand for pre-school dental treatment has been rather disappointing and many parents after promising to attend a clinic fail to do so. Their absence cannot be attributed solely to transport difficulties, because in some instances they lived only a few minutes walk from the clinic. It is, however, confidently hoped that, when the proposed scheme for dental treatment of Expectant and Nursing Mothers becomes an accomplished fact, a certain number of pre-school children will be included at each Maternity and Child Welfare Dental Session. This should have the effect of improving attendances, as it is hoped that all Maternity and Child Welfare Treatment sessions will be held regularly at set times and places.

Details of Inspection and Treatment are set out hereunder.

Inspection.

	Examined.	Referred for Treatment.
Age 2 . . .	—	—
3 . . .	3	3
4 . . .	10	9
	—	—
Total . . .	13	12
	—	—

Treatment.

First Visits	12
Attendances	12
Fillings	3
Extractions	2
Local Anæsthetics	2
Silver Nitrate (Howes)	51
Cavities Lined before Filling	2
Teeth Trimmed	2
Prophylactic Cleaning	2
Sessions devoted to Inspection and Treatment	3

(2) Eyes.

PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN REFERRED FOR VISUAL DEFECT.

Cases Referred.	Attended Clinic.	Refused Examination.	Glasses prescribed.	No Glasses prescribed.	Or-Special Frames.	dinary Frames.	Re-pairs.
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

(3) **Ear, Nose and Throat.**—No children treated.

(4) **Other Ailments.**—No children treated.

(5) **Ultra-violet Light Treatment.**—No children treated.

(6) **Orthopædic.**—No children treated.

Mother and Baby Homes.

There are no such Homes in the County.

Residential Nurseries and Children's Homes.

There are no such Homes in the County.

Home and Domestic Helps.

No Scheme is in operation in the County.

MATERNITY SERVICES (SCOTLAND) ACT, 1937.**Maternity Services Scheme.**

	1946.	1945.
Number of applications	49	53
Number of confinements	48	43
(a) At Home	44	38
(b) In Hospital	4	5
Cases removed to Hospital because of—		
(a) Home conditions	1	1
(b) Medical Emergency—		
Toxæmia	1	
Whooping Cough	1	
Ante-partum hæmorrhage	1	
Percentage of confinements conducted by Midwife alone	20%	37%
Percentage of cases admitted to Hospital for medical reasons	6%	9%
Number of Anæsthetists called in	—	—
Number of Consultants called in	—	—

The average number of weeks during which the patients were under observation was 17.

Supply of Food and Milk under Maternity and Child Welfare Scheme.

(1) Number of persons supplied with milk and other food preparations	Mothers —	Children —
(2) Milk.—Total quantity supplied (galls.)	Mothers —	Children —
(3) Other Food preparations	Mothers —	Children —
(4) Total cost to Local Authority (2)	Nil.	
(3)	Nil.	

Government Scheme for Distribution of Free or Cheap Milk and Vitamin Preparations.

At the end of the year 22.5 per cent. of those eligible for Cod Liver Oil under the Government Scheme of Vitamins Distribution were in receipt of same; 24.8 per cent. were taking Cod Liver Oil Tablets; and 32.8 per cent. were taking Orange Juice.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

No cases were notified during the year.

Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia.

One case of Puerperal Fever was notified by a doctor and removed to hospital during the year. There were no cases of Puerperal Pyrexia and no deaths.

REPORT BY

SUPERVISOR OF MIDWIVES AND SENIOR HEALTH VISITOR.

Supervision of Midwives—

Routine Inspections	15
Special Investigation Visits	8

Maternity and Child Welfare—

Ante-Natal Visits	23
Child Welfare Visits	22
Clinic Visits	11
Infant Life Protection Visits	3
Regulation 33B Visits	—

County Nursing Association—

Visits to District Nursing Sisters	38
Visits to Hon. Secretaries	15
Attendance at Meetings	4

II. School Children.

The Report on School Medical Services is issued separately.

III. Infectious Diseases.

The following cases were notified during the year :—

	Land- ward Area.	Peebles Burgh.	Inner- leithen Burgh.	Total 1946.	Cases not admitted to Hospital.	Total 1945.
Cerebro Spinal Fever	1	—	—	1	—	2
Diphtheria	4	2	2	8	—	16
Acute Primary Pneu- monia	—	—	—	—	—	1
Puerperal Fever	—	1	—	1	—	2
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	1
Scarlet Fever	11	44	3	58	2	17
Pulmonary Tubercu- losis	6	10	2	18	15	21
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	5	2	2	9	7	9
Total	27	59	9	95	24	69

Excluding Tuberculosis cases, 16 cases were admitted to Peebles Infectious Diseases Hospital, 3 to the City Hospital, and 47 to Galashiels Hospital.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

The Scheme of Diphtheria Immunisation was continued throughout the year. Particulars are shown in the following Table :—

	1—4 years.	5—14 years.	Over 14 years.
Number immunised to end of 1946	838	2,201	1,250
Number immunised during 1946	240	74	5
Number given maintenance injection during 1946	—	118	—
Percentage immunised of those resident in the County at end of 1946	97	90	—
Number of confirmed cases of diphtheria in 1946	—	1	*6
Number of deaths from diphtheria in 1946	—	—	—

* Four of these were on the Dutch Staff at Broomlee Camp.

Diphtheria antitoxin is provided by the Local Authority to Medical Practitioners free of charge.

IV. Tuberculosis.

REPORT BY Dr. G. J. SUMMERS.

During 1946, 27 cases of tuberculosis were notified, 18 being pulmonary and 9 non-pulmonary cases. The trend of notifications since 1935 is shown in the following Table :—

	1935-1939 Av.	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.	1946.
Pulmonary	6	9	5	11	19	11	21	18
Non-Pul- monary	5	4	8	5	6	9	9	9
Total	11	13	13	16	25	20	30	27

The increase in the number of pulmonary cases became evident during the war years, reaching a peak in 1945. The slight decrease in 1946 will, it is hoped, mark the start of a downward trend. The increased incidence of pulmonary tuberculosis was also a feature of the war years in 1914-18. It is among the young adult section of the community that the increase is most evident. Of the 18 pulmonary cases notified in 1946, 4 were between 15 and 25 years of age, and 9 between 25 and 35 years of age.

Early diagnosis is essential to success in the control of the disease. It ensures prompt control of a source of infection and enables treatment to be started when it can do most good. To this end and to avoid the necessity for travel to Edinburgh, arrangements were made in October to have tuberculous cases, suspects, and contacts X-rayed at Morelands Hospital, Peebles, the cost of the X-ray being defrayed by the County Council. The scheme has worked well and has enabled the Tuberculosis Officer, when in Peebles, to discuss the films with the family doctors.

Area.	Notified in 1946.		Total Cases in Area.	
	Pulmonary.	Non-Pulmonary.	Pulmonary.	Non-Pulmonary.
Landward . .	6	5	12	10
Peebles . .	10	2	25	6
Innerleithen . .	2	2	8	2
Totals .	18	9	45	18

**Number of Persons Resident in the Area
at 31st December 1946,
who were known to be suffering from Tuberculosis.**

AGE GROUP.		Under	5 and under	10 and under	15 and under	25 and under	35 and under	45 and under	65 and Up- wards.	Total.
		5	10	15	25	35	45	65		
Pulmonary.										
Notified 1946	M.	—	—	—	2	4	—	—	—	6
	F.	—	—	1	2	5	2	2	—	12
Total in Area 31/12/46										
	M.	—	—	—	3	5	6	6	1	21
	F.	—	1	2	5	5	8	3	—	24
Non-Pulmonary.										
Notified 1946	M.	1	1	1	1	—	—	1	—	5
	F.	—	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	4
Total in Area 31/12/46										
	M.	1	2	1	1	—	1	1	—	7
	F.	1	1	2	4	—	1	2	—	11

Number of persons who died from Tuberculosis in the Area during the year, with particulars as to period elapsing between notification and death, and between discharge from an Institution and death.

	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Number of persons who died from Tuberculosis	3	1	1	—
Of whom				
Not notified or notified only at or after death	1	—	—	—
Notified less than one month before death	—	—	—	—
Notified from 1 to 3 months before death	—	1	1	—
Notified from 3 to 6 months before death	—	—	—	—
Notified from 6 to 12 months before death	—	—	—	—
Notified from 1 to 2 years before death	1	—	—	—
Notified over 2 years before death	1	—	—	—
Number who died within 28 days after discharge from an Institution	—	—	—	—
Number who died more than 28 days after discharge from an Institution	2	—	—	—

Treatment.

The following is a summary of the treatment provided :—

1. Admission to Sanatoria or Hospital if required.
One patient was provided with a hut costing £79. 8s. 10d.
2. Provision of medical comforts, *i.e.*, milk as an addition to ordinary diet. No patients were supplied during the year.
3. Provision of drugs (including Cod Liver Oil Emulsion or Malt, Dressings and apparatus). Six patients were supplied with drugs in the course of the year at a cost of £10. 17s. 11.
4. Provision of travelling expenses in special cases for patients travelling to Edinburgh for "Light Treatment." No patients attended during the year.
5. Provision for examination by X-ray. As well as the cases X-rayed at Morelands Hospital, 20 confirmed cases, 18 suspects, and 5 Contacts were X-rayed in Edinburgh.

Sanatoria.

Cases who required sanatorium treatment have been admitted to the East Fortune Unit, Bangour, and to Drumshoreland Hospital. Drumshoreland Hospital is now concerned entirely with tuberculosis cases, and increased facilities for treatment have been made available during the year.

	In Sanatoria on 1st Jan. 1946.	Admitted during 1946.	Discharged or died during 1946.	In Sanatoria on 31st Dec. 1946.
East Fortune Unit.				
Males . . .	2	1	1	2
Females . . .	4	6	2	8
Children . . .	1	—	—	1
Drumshoreland Hospital.				
Males . . .	3	1	4	—
Females . . .	—	3	2	1
Children . . .	—	—	—	—
		Total.		
Males . . .	5	2	5	2
Females . . .	4	9	4	9
Children . . .	1	—	—	1
	10	11	9	12

After-Care of Surgical Tuberculosis.

There is an arrangement whereby cases suffering from tuberculosis of bone and joints, after treatment in East Fortune Sanatorium, are examined periodically by the consulting surgeon of the Sanatorium. These cases are mostly discharged with the progress of the disease arrested, but where a controlling apparatus is necessary.

The Tuberculosis Officer and the Surgeon together make examinations of these cases in Edinburgh and keep them under observation until the apparatus can be discarded. No patients were examined during the year.

Tuberculosis Treatment Allowances as from 1.1.46 to 31.12.46.

Number of Applications	2
Number granted Allowance	2
Number granted special payments	2
Number refused	—
Number in receipt of Allowance during year	6
Total payment for year 1946	£366. 7s. 5d.

V. Venereal Diseases.

The Scheme for the treatment of persons suffering from Venereal Diseases in the County remains as before.

Patients attend for consultation and treatment at the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh, where they may be admitted to special wards for in-treatment if necessary.

Examinations of specimens are carried out at the Infirmary Laboratory.

Medical Practitioners in the County are supplied with the necessary outfits for taking specimens, which are sent to the Clinical Pathologist, Pathological Laboratory, Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh.

CASES ATTENDING CENTRE.

	S.	G.	SS.	N.S.D.	Nil.	Total.	Grand	Attend-	Approx.
	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	Total.	ances.	No. Still
1946 .	1 1	7 4	— —	12 —	12 12	32 17	49	592	20
1945 .	2 2	4 9	— —	2 3	1 13	9 27	36	550	16

	1945.			1946.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Admissions to Hospital	4	5	9	5	6	11
Number of days in Hospital			145	79	91	170

No notifications were received under Regulation 33B. Five notifications were received of Service Personnel who were being discharged from the Services after having had treatment for venereal disease.

Travelling expenses amounting to £2, 8s. were paid in the course of the year for two cases and several cases were treated at home by their own doctors acting on advice from the Infirmary, at a cost of £46. 17s. 6d. to avoid the necessity of travelling to Edinburgh.

VI. Supply of Insulin.

Five persons were supplied with Insulin during the course of the year at a cost of £28. 16s. 3d.

VII. Cancer.

No provision has so far been made under the Cancer Act, 1939. It is felt that the service to be provided in Peeblesshire is entirely dependent upon the hospital and diagnostic facilities available in Edinburgh. These at the present time have not been re-organised to enable them to deal with cases which would be referred to them.

VIII. Mental Health Service.

No special arrangements exist in the County in connection with mental disability in the pre-certification stages. It is hoped that at a reasonably early date facilities will be available for psychiatric examination of both adults and children.

IX. Nursing of Sick Poor.

This is done by the District Nursing Associations who receive grants from the Local Authority. Cases can be admitted to Galashiels Poorhouse. The following Table gives details of the Peeblesshire cases treated during the year in the Hospital Wards:—

1. Total number of admissions	5
2. Total number of discharges	4
3. Total number of deaths	—
4. Average duration of stay of patients included in 2 and 3 (days)	29
5. Number of beds occupied—	
(a) Average during year	9
(b) Highest	10
(c) Lowest	8

X. Hospitals.

1. GENERAL.—

There are no general hospitals in the County.

2. INFECTIOUS DISEASE AND CHRONIC SICK.—

Following on an arrangement with the border counties, Peebles County Infectious Disease Hospital was reserved for the Chronic Sick as from 5th August. No further infectious disease cases were admitted from this date, and after nursing staff had been obtained, the first Chronic Sick person was admitted on 16th November. Infectious disease cases from the eastern part of the County, numbering 47 were taken to Galashiels Hospital, and those from the West, numbering 3, to the City Hospital, Edinburgh. The large number for Galashiels was due to a sharp but shortlived outbreak of scarlet fever in Peebles Burgh.

	Peebles County Hospital.	
	1/1/46 to 15/11/46	16/11/46 to 31/12/46
1. Total number of admissions	16	8
2. Total number of discharges	14	—
3. Total number of deaths	2	2
4. Average duration of stay of patients included in 2 and 3 (days)	26	16
5. Number of beds occupied—		
(a) Average during period	3	3
(b) Highest during period	6	6
(c) Lowest during period	—	1
6. Number of Surgical Operations—		
(a) Under general or spinal anæsthesia	—	—
(b) Other operations	—	—

3. SANATORIA.—

There are no sanatoria in the County, cases of Tuberculosis being admitted to the East Fortune Unit, Bangour, or Drum-shoreland Hospital, Broxburn.

4. MATERNITY.—

The Local Authority has no such Homes or Hospitals.

5. CHILDREN.—

The Local Authority has no such Homes or Hospitals.

6. CONVALESCENT HOMES.

The Local Authority has no such Homes or Hospitals.

XI. Registration of Nursing Homes.

There are no Registered Nursing Homes in the County. There is one voluntary home run by Peeblesshire Nursing Association in Peebles Burgh which is granted exemption from registration. It has 15 general and 11 maternity beds and takes Medical, Surgical and Maternity cases. It also possesses an up to date X-ray plant.

XII. Ambulance Facilities.

There are two ambulances in the County, one belonging to the County Council for transport of infectious diseases cases, and the other belonging to the St. Andrew's Ambulance Association, both being stationed in Peebles Burgh. Cases from the western part of the County occasionally have the use of the Biggar ambulance.

XIII. Health Education.

Following on the fortnight's lecture tour in conjunction with the Scottish Council for Health Education in the Autumn of 1945, no further specific propaganda was conducted during 1946, but every opportunity was taken in personal talks by the medical, dental, and nursing staffs to spread as much knowledge as possible on healthy living.

B. FOOD SUPPLY.

Milk.

REPORT BY MISS BLACK, MILK OFFICER.

"Certified" Producers.

There was one Producer during the year. The methods of this producer were improved considerably, and he was able to maintain satisfactory bacteriological results. As his equipment for cooling the milk does not fulfil requirements he has relinquished the "certified" licence in favour of a "Tuberculin Tested" licence. There were thus no "Certified" licences remaining at the beginning of 1947.

“Tuberculin Tested ” Producers.

Throughout the year 10 applications for “Tuberculin Tested” licences have been considered, eight being granted during the year and a further one as from 1st January 1947. The tenth application was not granted owing to the unsatisfactory conditions prevailing at the farm. These 10 applications represent 6 “Ordinary” producers as at 31st December 1945, 1 “Standard” producer, 1 “Ordinary” producer as at June 1946 on entry to farm, and 2 additional producers to the area. One “Tuberculin Tested” producer has left the area. This makes a total of **42 “Tuberculin Tested”** producers, 2 of whom have been granted licences but have not yet had any samples taken as “Tuberculin Tested” producers.

Sixteen of these producers have given consistently good results in Bacteriological tests of their samples of milk. Twenty-one producers have given reasonably good results. Three producers have given inconsistent results throughout the year, but at the end of the year were satisfactory. Equipment has been renewed and maintained in good condition on most farms, while methods and procedure of clean milk production have improved considerably throughout the year.

“Standard ” Producers.

One application for a “Standard” licence was considered and granted, but as this producer subsequently became unsatisfactory, the “Standard” licence was suspended at the end of the year until such time as a satisfactory standard could be maintained. The other producer obtained a “tuberculin Tested” licence. There were no “Standard” producers at the beginning of 1947.

“Ordinary ” Producers.

There were **34 “Ordinary”** producers during the year, 7 of whom were granted “Tuberculin Tested” licences. One other producer was granted a “Tuberculin Tested” licence as from 1st January 1947. Another producer obtained a “Standard” licence, but as mentioned above, this was suspended at the end of the year.

Although conditions at most of these farms are not satisfactory, methods on the whole are fairly good.

During the year there were 4 new Dairy Registrations.

Fourteen “Ordinary” producers attained consistently satisfactory Bacteriological results during the year.

Dairy Shops.

There were **6 Dairy Shops** supplying milk during the year. Two shops which received bottled milk for distribution gave satisfactory results in the Bacteriological tests of samples of

milk, but in the case of the other four shops the results were inconsistent, which would indicate that conditions for bottling and/or storage at Dairy Shops are inadequate.

In addition one producer is licensed to retail milk from a cart.

School Milk.

All schools in the County are supplied with milk which is sampled regularly. If and when found to be unsatisfactory, investigation is made at the source of supply.

BACTERIOLOGICAL SAMPLES.

Number of visits to farms to take samples and discuss difficulties with producers.

"CERTIFIED"	"T.T."	"STANDARD."	"ORDINARY."	TOTAL.
6	196	10	95	307

"Certified." Number of Producers 1. Number of Samples 6.
6 Original Samples. 6 Satisfactory.

"T.T." Number of Producers 40. Number of Samples 196.
169 Original Samples. 140 Satisfactory. 29 Unsatisfactory.
27 Repeat Samples. 22 Satisfactory. 5 Unsatisfactory.

At the end of the year all Producers in this category were considered reasonably satisfactory.

"Standard." Number of Producers 2. Number of Samples 10.
6 Original Samples. 3 Satisfactory. 3 Unsatisfactory.
4 Repeat Samples. 1 Satisfactory. 3 Unsatisfactory.

At the end of the year one Producer was still unsatisfactory.

"Ordinary." Number of Producers 34. Number of Samples 95.
77 Original Samples. 58 Satisfactory. 19 Unsatisfactory.
18 Repeat Samples. 13 Satisfactory. 5 Unsatisfactory.

At the end of the year two Producers were still unsatisfactory.

"Dairy Shops." Number of Shops 6. Number of Samples 11.
11 Original Samples. 5 Satisfactory. 6 Unsatisfactory.

"Schools." Number of Samples 14.
10 Original Samples. 7 Satisfactory. 3 Unsatisfactory.
4 Repeat Samples. 1 Satisfactory. 3 Unsatisfactory.

Meat and Other Foods.

Routine sampling of food supplies was carried out during the year. Thirty-five samples were taken, one of which was found to be non-genuine and the retailer was warned. Nine cwt. 24 lbs. of food were condemned during the year.

Slaughtering operations are confined to the Public Slaughterhouse in Peebles Burgh, the animals slaughtered during the year numbering—

Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Calves.
728	4,125	16	492

The slaughterhouse is kept in a satisfactory condition.

Food Poisoning.

There were no outbreaks of food poisoning during the year.

Nutrition.

No special action was taken in respect of the general nutrition of the population during the year. Despite the general difficulties arising from short supply and queuing the nutrition of the community as a whole continued to be satisfactory.

C. GENERAL SANITATION.

Water Supply.

The question of the adequacy of the water supply throughout the County and in the Burghs received considerable attention during the year. In the Landward area a scheme was put forward to the Department of Health to cover a considerable area round West Linton. The continued need for increased storage and filtration for the Peebles Burgh supply was stressed.

Drainage and Rivers Pollution.

No particular problems arose in connection with these during the year.

Factories Act, 1937.

Sixty-three inspections were made. No defects were found.

Housing.

The position at the end of the year was as follows:—

		Houses.		
		Built.	Building.	Not yet begun.
County Landward	. . .	—	60	98
Peebles Burgh	. . .	30	24	134
Innerleithen Burgh	. . .	20	26	76
Total		50	110	308

Owing to the lack of repairs during the war years and since, the condition of many of the older houses has deteriorated considerably, and, keeping in view the higher standard of habitability now visualised, the number of houses which will ultimately fall to be dealt with under the Housing Acts will be greatly increased in comparison with pre-war estimates.

